



U R B A N   D I S T R I C T   O F

C A N V E Y   I S L A N D.

A N N U A L   R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L   O F F I C E R   O F   H E A L T H

(Norman Lorraine, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.E.)

including T H E   R E P O R T   of the

S A N I T A R Y   I N S P E C T O R

(E. Ditchburn, C.R.S.I.)

for 1939.



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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health       \*

Norman S. R. Lorraine, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.S.E., D.P.H.,  
R.C.P.S. Edin. and R.F.P.S. Glas.  
Also Medical Officer of Health for Benfleet and Rayleigh  
Urban District Councils and Assistant County Medical Officer,  
Essex County Council.

Assistant Medical Officers - Essex County Council.

Esther P. Jones, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Orthopaedic Surgeon - part-time.

B. Whitchurch Howell, F.R.C.S. etc.

Ophthalmologist -

J. Horton Young, M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S.

District Dental Surgeon -

D. W. Hurley, L.D.S., R.F.P.S.

Specialist, Ears, Nose and Throat (Southend General Hospital - part-time)

C. Hamblen Thomas, F.R.C.S. etc.

Health Visitor -

Miss M. K. Knight, General Training, Oldchurch Hospital, Romford.  
Central Midwives' Board Certificate (S.C.M.) Oldchurch  
Hospital and Maternity Nursing Association, Myddleton Square,  
Islington. Health Visitors' Certificate, Royal Sanitary  
Institute (new); Public Health Diploma, Battersea Polytechnic.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health -

Miss D. Grudgings.

Sanitary Inspector \* and Inspector under the Petroleum (Consolidation)  
Act, 1928, The Factory and Workshops Act, and the Rats and Mice  
Destruction Act, 1919.

E. Ditchburn, C.R.S.I.

This Officer is qualified in accordance with the Sanitary  
Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

Clerk to the Sanitary Inspector -

A. P. J. Cook.

\* One half of the salaries attached to these offices is paid  
by the County Council from the Exchequer Contribution Account.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1939.

Public Health Department,  
London Road,  
HADLEIGH, Essex.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District  
Council of Canvey Island.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration my Eleventh Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your Urban District for the year 1939.

A Circular was addressed by the Ministry of Health, dated 19th July, 1940, to the Clerk of the Local Authority indicating that in view of the increasing pressure of work in the public health department of local authorities and the need for strict economy in the use of paper the Minister considers that interim reports only should be made for the year 1939, which this is intended to be.

I desire again to express my gratitude to all members of the staff of the Department for their loyal co-operation and also to officers of other Departments for information and assistance readily given from time to time.

For the sympathetic consideration and assistance received during the year, I should like to express my thanks to the Council.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

NORMAN LORRAINE,

M.D., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.S.E., D.P.H.  
R.C.P.S. Edin. and R.F.P.S. Glas.

October, 1940.

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) comprising Island, Foreshore and Tidal Waters	...	...	9,071
Population:			
(a) For calculation of Birth Rates	..		6,230
(b) For calculation of Death Rates or the incidence of notifiable disease	...	...	6,204
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) according to Rate Book	...		4,150
Rateable Value	...	...	£42,600
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	...	£160

In the above and following statistics, several routine details are omitted, as non-essential.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

<u>England and Wales.</u>	Live Births	15.0	Deaths	12.1
	Deaths under 1 year of age	50.0		

Canvey Island U. D. C.

Live Births (a) B. R. (For calculating Birth Rates)

	Total.	M.	F.	
	85	46	39	Birth Rate per
Legitimate	79	43	36	1,000 estimated
Illegitimate	6	3	3	resident population
				... 13.6 ...

(b) E. M. etc (For calculating Infant and Maternal Mortalities)

	85	46	39
Legitimate	79	43	36
Illegitimate	6	3	3

## Stillbirths

Total	4	4	-	Rate per 1,000
Legitimate	4	4	-	total (live &
Illegitimate	-	-	-	still) births
				... 44.9 ..

## Deaths

87	49	38	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population ... 14.0 .. *
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Deaths from puerperal causes:-

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still births)
Puerperal sepsis	-	-
Other puerperal causes	-	-
Total	-	-

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

Total number of infants	...	...	4
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	47.1
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	50.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	-
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	13
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	1

4 This figure to render it comparable with the death rate for the country as a whole, has to be multiplied by the Areal Comparability Factor 0.91, which has been supplied by the Registrar General as requisite to redress the abnormal constitution of the local population from the point of view of sex and age components. Applying this factor, the corrected death rate is 12.7 as compared with 12.1 for the country as a whole.



## SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

In respect of (a) Laboratory Facilities (b) Ambulance Facilities (c) Nursing in the Home (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics and (e) Hospitals, there are no essential changes to note.

## SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. 2723 houses were connected to Southend Water Company's mains at the end of the year - an increase of 100.

Drainage and Sewerage. 132 connections were made to the sewer affecting 192 properties making totals of 482 connections serving 968 properties.

Public Cleansing. 823 loads of refuse were collected from 63 bins, each bin serving several streets.

Salvage. Waste paper is collected upon receipt of postcards and also periodical collection is made from the various depots on the Island.

Visits and Inspections. 3761 visits were made for public health purposes during the year and a total of 1620 visits were paid in connection with distribution of Air Raid Shelters, etc.

Factories Act, 1937. A total of 25 inspections were made.

Petroleum (Regulations) Acts, 1928 and 1936. 9 inspections were made and 9 licences were issued.

In other branches of sanitary administration, the usual routine work was carried out but no essential changes occurred.

## SECTION D - HOUSING.

126 new houses were erected between 1st April, 1939, and 31st March, 1940. Housing inspections were curtailed by reason of evacuation, etc. and 73 inspections were made.

## SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply. At the end of the year 7 farms and other premises used as dairies were registered and 20 retail purveyors were also registered.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936. One licence to sell Pasteurised milk and one licence to sell Tuberculin Tested milk were granted. The licences were supplementary licences for the retail sale of the milks from a depot in the District.

Meat and other Foods. No slaughterhouse exists in the District. Periodical inspection is made of butchers shops and the meat therein examined.

Fish. Fish shops were inspected periodically.

Food and Drugs Act. 9 samples of milk were submitted by the County Council to biological examination - the result was negative in each case.

20 samples obtained at farms licensed to produce accredited milk were submitted to methylene blue reduction test - 2 were found to be unsatisfactory.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, etc.

24 samples were submitted by the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority and two were stated to be adulterated or below standard.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS  
AND OTHER DISEASES.

In respect of the prevalence of infectious diseases, there are no matters of outstanding importance to report.

A detailed table of the number notified is given on the next page.

Tuberculosis. During the year, eight cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified, three males and five females.

It is regretted that during 1939 there were seven deaths from tuberculosis, all respiratory, four males and three females.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS ACT, 1937.

Heavy responsibilities have devolved upon this Department in respect of the Emergency Medical Services (Casualty Services).

In this District, one First Aid Post has been established, equipped and staffed and is sited in Furberwick Road, Canvey Island. Dr. W. M. Corbet has been appointed Medical Officer in charge and a Nurse in Charge has been allocated by the Civil Nursing Reserve.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1939.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases included in Weekly Returns												Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.	Sex																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
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≡ Non-civilian

≠ Not notified as diagnosis was confirmed when patient was in hospital outside the District.





